

## REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed from the United States Patent and Trademark Office on September 2, 2004, the Examiner rejected claims 1-20.

### Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Weingarden et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,164,975) in view of Luh (U.S. Patent No. 6,609,129), and further in view of Sloane et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,813,863). Applicant respectfully traverses.

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation . . . to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. MPEP 2142. Obviousness cannot be established by combining the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention, absent some teaching or suggestion supporting the combination. *In re John R. Fritch*, 972 F.2d 1260, 1266 (Fed. Cir. 1992). Any such suggestion must be found in the prior art, and not based on applicants disclosure. *In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488, 493 (Fed. Cir. 1991). A clear and particular showing of the suggestion to combine is required to support an obviousness rejection under Section 103. *Id.* For the reasons set forth below, Applicant submits that the prior art fails both to teach or suggest all the claim limitations, and to clearly and particularly suggest the combination indicated by the Examiner; thus, Applicants claims are not obvious in view of the prior art references.

The Examiner fails to clearly demonstrate that the proposed combination of references teach or suggest all of the claim limitations. In the response to arguments section of the Office Action, the Examiner reasserts that Luh teaches a mechanism that extracts anchors to establish nodes and relationships. The Examiner cites the following method in Luh for this assertion:

1. Establish an item master object in each database to integrate all information related to a particular product in the database.
2. Construct an item master tree structure among different databases. In this step, it is mainly to establish connections among item master objects of different databases so as to integrate related information in all databases. (Luh Col 3, Lines 23-30)

Applicants cite the following paragraph on page 16 of the application which defines “anchors”, “nodes”, and “relationships”:

In the disclosure and in the claims the term “anchor” shall refer to a bookmark, link, note, or indication that refers to a particular location, file, object, or piece of information. Furthermore, in the disclosure and in the claims, the term “node” shall refer to an object or piece of information that may be associated with another object or piece of information. Examples of nodes include a conceptual node and an associated node, wherein the associated node relates in some fashion to the conceptual node, as will be further discussed below. Also, in the disclosure and in the claims, the term “object” shall refer to any type of information that may be processed on an electronic medium, including text, sound, graphics, video, and any other data, file or information.

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner appears to assert that a master object functions like an anchor. This is an incorrect application of the elements of Luh to the claim limitations in the claimed inventions. In Luh, a master object defines the relationship between all of the information contained within each database. Clearly a master object functions more like a node than an anchor and the master tree structure functions like the relationships between the nodes. In order to make a proper comparison, these definitions must be utilized.

In addition, the databases in Luh are existing databases with existing data objects. The title of the patent is “Method for **integrating** various information objects among different databases into a system structure”. The information in the databases is never extracted from an

outside source. The title clearly states that information objects are **integrated** into databases for the purposes of correlating the data within each of the databases. Therefore, the structure and information within the individual databases already exists and there are no anchors. This is a very different concept from extracting a node/relationship structure from a source content that includes anchors.

There is no teaching of a mechanism for extracting anchors in order to create the nodes/master objects or relationships/master tree structures. Therefore, Luh does not teach the limitation in claim 1 of, “**extracting one or more of the plurality of anchors from the source content** to establish a corresponding one or more nodes and a relationship between the one or nodes...”. Likewise, the proposed combination fails to teach the limitation in claims 11 and 20 of “utilizing a first anchor in the source content to establish a first node associated with the source content”. And therefore, the proposed combination fails to teach every element of the claimed inventions. The remainder of the claims are dependent from claims 1, 11, or 20 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons.

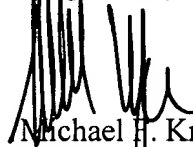
The Examiner also fails to demonstrate a clear motivation to combine the references and a clear indication of success. The automatic creation or extraction of a plurality of nodes and relationships from a source content is not a simple procedure that would be easily implemented by one skilled in the art. Therefore, the proposed combination relies on both impermissible hindsight and does not demonstrate a reasonable expectation of success for one skilled in the art. This should be considered further evidence that the proposed combination is not obvious to one skilled in the art.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the amendments made herein do not add new matter and that the claims are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants request favorable reconsideration. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this communication, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,



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